- English Grammar in Use (Grammar Addition to the Textbook English for Pharmacy and Medical Bioanalytics)
- Mgr. Zuzana Katerová
- Conditionals

Conditionals

Zero conditional

We use the **zero conditional** to talk about things that are always true.

- If you heat water, it boils.
- When the sun goes down, it gets dark.
- It lights up if you push that button.

The present simple is used in both clauses.

First conditional

We use the **first conditional** when we talk about real and possible situations.

- I'll go shopping on the way home if I have time.
- If it's a nice day tomorrow, we'll go to the beach.
- If Arsenal win, they'll be top of the league.

In first conditional sentences, the structure is usually **if + present simple** and **will + infinitive**. It's not important which clause comes first.

Second conditional

The **second conditional** is used to talk about 'unreal' or impossible things.

- If I won a lot of money, I'd buy a big house in the country.
- Where would you live if you could live anywhere in the world?
- If you didn't smoke so much, you'd feel a lot better.

The structure is usually **if + past simple** and **would + infinitive**. It's not important which clause comes first.

Look at the difference between the first and second conditionals.

- In January: If it snows tomorrow, I'll go skiing. It might snow tomorrow.
- In August: If it snowed tomorrow, I'd go skiing. It almost certainly won't snow tomorrow.





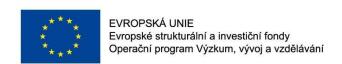
NOTE: Although many conditional sentences use if + will/would, conditional sentences can also use other words instead of 'if' - e.g. 'when' 'as soon as' 'in case' Other modal verbs can be used instead of 'will/would' - e.g. 'can/could', 'may' 'might'.

Check your grammar

I. Conditional exercise (first / second / third conditionals)

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Finish the	sentences	with a	clause	in the	correct	conditional.

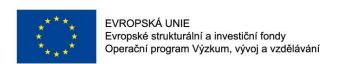
1: If it is sunny tomorrow
2: If you sit in the sun too long
3: If I were you
4: If I were the Prime Minister
5: If she had studied harder
6: If I won the lottery
7: If I hadn't gone to bed so late
8: If I hadn't come to London
9: If you mix water and electricity
10: If she hadn't stayed at home
11: If I go out tonight
12: If I were on holiday today
13: If I had listened to my mother
14: If I hadn't eaten so much
15: If it rains later
16: If I were British
17: If I were the opposite sex
18: If I have enough money
19: If you don't wear a coat in the winter
20: If I weren't studying English





II. Conditional exercise (first / second / third conditionals)

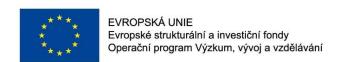
1. (First conditional) If wethe exam.	(not / work) harder, we	(not pass)
2. (Third conditional) If the students	(not be) late for the exam,	
they (pass).		
3. (Third conditional) If the weatherto the beach.	(not be) so cold, we	(go)
4. (Second conditional) If she(email) me.	(have) her laptop with her, she	
5. (First conditional) If she(not go) either.	(not go) to the meeting, I	
6. (Third conditional) If the baby (not be) so tired.	(sleep) better last night, I	
7. (First conditional) If the teacher (not be) happy.	(give) us lots of homework this	s weekend, I
8. (Second conditional) If Lucy (travel) more.	(have) enough time, she	
9. (First conditional) If the children (be) grumpy.	(not eat) soon, they	
10. (First conditional) If Itired in the morning.	(not go) to bed soon, I	(be)
11. (Second conditional) If Ione.	(want) a new car, I	(buy)
12. (Second conditional) If José (not move) to Paris.	(not speak) good French, he	
13. (First conditional) If John(get) ill.	(drink) too much coffee, he	
14. (Third conditional) If weour keys.	(tidy) our flat, we	(not lose)
15. (Third conditional) If Luke	(not send) flowers to his mother,	
she (not be) happy.		





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16. (Second conditional) If the children able to) have a bath.	(be) in bed, I	(be	
17. (Second conditional) If you (not have) so many arguments!	(not be) so stubborn, we		
18. (Third conditional) If Julie Germany.	(not go) to Sweden, she	(go) to	
19. (First conditional) If she more.	(go) to the library, she	(study)	
20. (Third conditional) If we(not be) late.	(not have) an argument, we		
21. (Second conditional) If youstressful.	(arrive) early, it	(be) less	
22. (Third conditional) If I meet) Amanda.	(not go) to the party, I	(not	
23. (Second conditional) If Julieher some.	(like) chocolate, I	(give)	
24. (Second conditional) If Lukehim more often.	(live) in the UK, I	(see)	
25. (Third conditional) If the children	(not eat) all that chocolate,		
they (feel) sick.			
26. (First conditional) If theylate.	(not / arrive) soon, we	(be)	
27. (Third conditional) If sheto Beijing.	(study) Mandarin, she	(go)	
28. (Second conditional) If weout.	(not be) so tired, we	(go)	
29. (First conditional) If youup.	(buy) the present, I	(wrap) it	
30. (First conditional) If Lucy(go) crazy.	(not quit) her job soon, she		





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Check your answers

I. Conditional exercise (first / second / third conditionals)

Possible answers (check your answer is in the same tense):

1: If it is sunny tomorrow, we'll go to the park. 2: If you sit in the sun too long, you get burned. 3: If I were you, I would go out tonight. 4: If I were the Prime Minister, I would make the museums free. 5: If she had studied harder, she would have passed the exam. 6: If I won the lottery, I would buy a big house. 7: If I hadn't gone to bed so late, I wouldn't have been tired. 8: If I hadn't come to London, I would have gone to New York. 9: If you mix water and electricity, you get a shock. 10: If she hadn't stayed at home, she would have gone shopping.

11: If I go out tonight, I'll go to the cinema. 12: If I were on holiday today, I would go to the beach. 13: If I had listened to my mother, I wouldn't have caught a cold. 14: If I hadn't eaten so much, I wouldn't have felt sick.

15: If it rains later, I won't go out. 16: If I were British, I would speak perfect English. 17: If I were the opposite sex, I would grow a beard. 18: If I have enough money, I'll buy some new shoes. 19: If you don't wear a coat in the winter, you get sick. 20: If I weren't studying English, I would study French.

II. Conditional exercise (first / second / third conditionals)

1. (First conditional) If we don't work harder, we won't pass the exam. 2. (Third conditional) If the students hadn't been late for the exam, they would have passed. 3. (Third conditional) If the weather hadn't been so cold, we would have gone to the beach. 4. (Second conditional) If she had her laptop with her, she would email me. 5. (First conditional) If she doesn't go to the meeting, I won't go either. 6. (Third conditional) If the baby had slept better last night, I wouldn't have been so tired. 7. (First conditional) If the teacher gives us lots of homework this weekend, I won't be happy. 8. (Second conditional) If Lucy had enough time, she would travel more. 9. (First conditional) If the children don't eat soon, they'll be grumpy. 10. (First conditional) If I don't go to bed soon, I'll be tired in the morning. 11. (Second conditional) If I wanted a new car, I would buy one. 12. (Second conditional) If José didn't speak good French, he wouldn't move to Paris. 13. (First conditional) If John drinks too much coffee, he'll get ill. 14. (Third conditional) If we had tidied our flat, we wouldn't have lost our keys. 15. (Third conditional) If Luke hadn't sent flowers to his mother, she wouldn't have been happy. 16. (Second conditional) If the children were in bed, I would be able to have a bath. 17. (Second conditional) If you weren't so stubborn, we wouldn't have so many arguments! 18. (Third conditional) If Julie hadn't gone to Sweden, she would have gone to Germany. 19. (First conditional) If she goes to the library, she'll study more. 20. (Third conditional) If we hadn't had an argument, we wouldn't have been late. 21. (Second conditional) If you arrived early, it would be less stressful. 22. (Third conditional) If I hadn't gone to the party, I wouldn't have met Amanda. 23. (Second conditional) If Julie liked chocolate, I would give her some. 24. (Second conditional) If Luke lived in the UK, I would see him more often. 25. (Third conditional) If the children hadn't eaten all that chocolate, they wouldn't have felt sick. 26. (First conditional) If they don't arrive soon, we'll be late. 27. (Third conditional) If she had studied Mandarin, she would have gone to Beijing. 28. (Second conditional) If we weren't so tired, we would go out. 29. (First conditional) If you buy the present, I'll wrap it up. 30. (First conditional) If Lucy doesn't quit her job soon, she'll go crazy.

